

**Minutes of the State Board of Health**

**March 10, 2004**

The Washington State Board of Health (SBOH) met at Bates Technical College, Downtown Campus, located at 1101 South Yakima Avenue, Tacoma, Washington. Chair Linda Lake called the public meeting to order at 9:20 a.m. and addressed the attendees with the following statement:

“This is a public meeting of the State Board of Health held under provisions of RCW 43.20. Notice of the meeting was provided in accordance with provisions of RCW 34.05, the Administrative Procedures Act. Those members having any conflict of interest on any item coming before the Board will report that conflict with respect to the particular subject under consideration. In case of challenge of any Board members by the public, the Board shall decide the status of the challenged members to participate before considering the substance of the matter.

Copies of all materials supplied to the Board for today’s meeting have been available since close of business last Friday from the Board’s Olympia office and on the Board’s Web site at [www.doh.wa.gov/sboh](http://www.doh.wa.gov/sboh). They are also available today, along with anything else we have received since, at the table in the back of the room. To conserve public funds, we have only made as many copies as we feel will be needed, so we may run out of some particularly popular items. If you do not find a document you need, please ask Executive Assistant Desiree Robinson, or another Board staff person for one.

Our meeting today is open to the public, so please feel free to listen in on informal discussions involving Board members or staff, including any that may occur during breaks or lunch.”

**SBOH members present:**

Linda Lake, MBA, Chair	Charles Chu, DPM
Ed Gray, MD	Vickie Ybarra, RN, MPH
Thomas H. Locke, MD, MPH, Vice Chair	The Honorable David Crump, PhD
Carl Osaki, RS, MSPH	Maxine Hayes, MD, MPH
Mel Tonasket	

**SBOH members absent:**

The Honorable Carolyn Edmonds

**State Board of Health Staff present:**

Craig McLaughlin, Acting Executive Director	Candi Wines, Health Policy Advisor
Tara Wolff, Health Policy Advisor	Desiree Robinson, Executive Assistant
Marianne Seifert, Health Policy Advisor	Heather Boe, Assistant to the Board

**Guests and Other Participants:**

Janice Adair, Department of Health  
Dr. Nancy Anderson, Medical Assistance Administration, representing Agency Medical Directors  
Yoram Bauman, Department of Health  
James Crabbe, Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department  
Monet Craton, Pierce County Health Services Careers Council  
Federico Cruz-Uribe, Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department  
Michelle Davis, Department of Health  
Larry Fay, Jefferson County Health Department  
S. Franklin, Department of Labor and Industries  
Maria Gardipee, Department of Health  
Tony Gomez, Public Health—Seattle & King County  
Maryanne Guichard, Department of Health  
Mary Hansen, Department of Ecology  
Dr. L.H. Horton Jr., Bates Technical College  
Amy Jankowiak, Department of Ecology  
Becky Johnson, American Indian Health Commission

Ann Kenny, Department of Ecology  
 Jennifer Kunkle, BIAW  
 Terry Lee, Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department  
 Virginia Lee, Public Health—Seattle & King County  
 Tom Luce, Office of Congressman Norm Dick  
 Kathy McVay, Tacoma-Pierce County Board of Health  
 Jeff Mero, Association of Washington Public Hospital Districts  
 Steve Meyer, Department of Health  
 Joane Mocer, Pierce College-Clover Park Nursing Collaboration  
 Kim Moore, Health Workforce Diversity Network  
 Jim Patterson, Five Star Environmental and Onsite Rule Development Committee  
 Kevin Phelps, Tacoma-Pierce County Board of Health  
 Ed Prince, Commission on African American Affairs  
 Katherine Sanders, Washington Hospital Foundation  
 Hakeem Shakoor, Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department  
 Ron Shultz, Governor's Policy Office  
 Gayle Thronson, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction  
 John E. Veentjer, US Coast Guard Marine Safety Office Puget Sound  
 Stephen Wecker, Onsite Rule Development Committee  
 Laurie Wylie, Western Washington Area Health Education Center

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*Motion: Approve March 10, 2004 agenda*

*Motion/Second: Crump/Chu*

*Approved unanimously*

### **ADOPTION OF JANUARY 14, 2004 MEETING MINUTES**

*Motion: Approve the January 14, 2004 minutes as written*

*Motion/Second: Locke/Osaki*

*Approved unanimously*

### **WELCOME FROM BATES COLLEGE**

Dr. L.H. Horton, Jr., Interim President, Bates Technical College, welcomed the Board members and described Bates College's place in the community and the technical college system in Washington.

### **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH UPDATE**

Board Member Maxine Hayes described the DOH Environmental Health Assessment team's analysis of canned tuna, which found that mercury levels in canned "light" tuna are three times lower than in canned albacore tuna. Dr. Hayes mentioned that Ron Weaver, DOH Assistant Secretary for HSQA, has been activated and will be on duty as Director of the Joint Forces Headquarters through May 2005. Dr. Hayes handed out highlights of the DOH top accomplishments for 2003, noting that it has been a very productive year. She called attention to the JAMA article just released on causes of death, such as obesity and tobacco related causes. She added that obesity has been a priority for the Board and DOH, and looks forward to future work on obesity, especially with health plans. Board Member Carl Osaki added that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has awarded a grant to the University of Washington School of Public Health and Public Health Seattle-King County and they will focus on obesity and may provide public health models useful to the Board and DOH.

### **SBOH ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER BOARD BUSINESS**

Craig McLaughlin, WSBOH Acting Executive Director, introduced two new staff members Candi Wines, Health Policy Advisor, and Nicole Campbell, intern. Mr. McLaughlin described various items behind Tab 5 and a recently received letter from Senator Ken Jacobsen about school drinking water regulations and safety concerns.

### **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Craig McLaughlin referred to materials behind Tab 6. He noted that the Legislature is nearing the end of the 2004 session, and he reviewed the Board's communication with the Legislature during session. He highlighted legislation still alive that could have an impact on the Board's workload or its statutory authority. Steve Meyer, Director of the DOH Office of Legislative, Policy, and

Constituent Relations described the supplemental budget currently under consideration by the House and Senate.

### **PROVISIONALLY NOTIFIABLE CONDITIONS REPORT**

Board Member Tom Locke directed the members to the material behind Tab 7 and discussed the history of the notifiable conditions rule, chapter 246-101 WAC. He reviewed the eight provisionally notifiable conditions listed in WAC 246-101-015 that are due to expire in August. Yoram Bauman, Economist, DOH, presented a DOH report that recommends adding seven of the conditions to the permanently notifiable conditions list. After Mr. Bauman's presentation, the Board discussed issues related to the conditions. Dr. Locke said there may be advantages in the near future to require reporting of invasive streptococcus, group A, which was not recommended by DOH. Board Member David Crump asked for more information about the diagnosis of autism for reporting purposes, and the utility of reporting conditions like fetal alcohol syndrome/fetal alcohol effects. Board Member Ed Gray noted that reporting was originally envisioned as a way of responding to communicable disease and questioned whether we require reporting of noninfectious/non-communicable conditions like birth defects. Members also discussed HIPAA regulations and the provision of services related to the reportable conditions.

***Motion: The Board directs the acting executive director to sign a CR-101 indicating the Board's intent to consider adding one or more provisionally notifiable conditions to the list of permanently notifiable conditions in chapter 246-101 WAC***

***Motion/Second: Locke/Osaki***

***Approved unanimously***

### **CRUISE SHIP WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT PRACTICES – STATE AND FEDERAL RULES**

Dr. Locke and Mr. Osaki introduced the issue and summarized the events leading to the Board's involvement (see memo behind Tab 8). Larry Fay, Environmental Health Director, Jefferson County, expressed the Jefferson County Board of Health's (JCBOH) desire to have the SBOH involved in the issue and review the policies surrounding wastewater management practices and make recommendations, if any, to improve the practices. John E. Veentjer, Chief, Prevention Department, US Coast Guard Marine Safety Office Puget Sound, gave an overview of the USCG responsibilities and duties in Puget Sound and presented regulations on reporting waste discharge and types of equipment required aboard marine vessels (see Tab 8). Ann Kenny, Department of Ecology, explained Ecology's role in negotiating and developing relevant policies with cruise ship companies and investigating reports of violations.

Chair Lake asked Marianne Seifert, WSBOH staff, to follow these issues and asked for periodic updates as the issues developed. Mr. Osaki offered to be the Board sponsor and bring the issue back to the Board. Mr. Osaki recommended that the Board follow up in a year from the signing of the final Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) from participants in the MOU process and from JCBOH to find out how the MOU has worked. Ann Kenny agreed to make the MOU available to the Board during the review/comment period.

***Motion: The Board requests that Mr. Osaki monitor issues regarding cruise ship waste management practice and bring them before the Board periodically.***

***Motion/Second: Osaki/Crump***

***Approved unanimously***

### **WATER RECREATION RULE UPDATE**

WSBOH Member Carl Osaki introduced the discussion of the water recreation rules (see memo behind Tab 9). Maryanne Guichard, Washington State Department of Health, reviewed the proposed changes to WAC 246-260 in a slide presentation (see slideshow, Tab 9). The public hearing on the revised draft rule is scheduled for May 12, 2004.

### **ONSITE RULE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Mr. Osaki initiated a discussion on the efforts to revise the small on-site septic system rules and directed the Board to the material behind Tab 10. On behalf of the Board, he acknowledged and commended the work of the Onsite Rule Development Committee. He introduced Maryanne Guichard, Director of Environmental Health and Safety, DOH. Ms. Guichard recognized several audience members who had contributed to the RDC's work and reviewed some key elements of the rule language the committee had recommended (see presentation, Tab 10). Ron Shultz, Natural Resources Policy Advisor, Governor's Executive Policy Office, presented a letter from Governor Locke concerning water quality and the safety of shellfish beds. Governor Locke urged

the Board to work with DOH to identify ways to strengthen sections of the rule related to better protecting marine waters from failing or poorly maintained septic systems (see letter, Tab 10).

### **PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

Virginia Lee, Prevention Specialist, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Public Health Seattle-King County, addressed revisions to the water recreation rule, specifically those concerning lifeguards. She stated that while the proposed changes would increase protections for some, they would reduce protections for youth ages 16 to 25 and for seniors.

Tony Gomez, Public Health Seattle-King County, addressed revisions to the water recreation rule, specifically those concerning lifeguards. He encouraged stricter rules regarding the presence of lifeguards during adult lap swims and continued monitoring of bathing beaches for health hazards such as communicable diseases and drowning events. He commended the revisions regarding fencing requirements.

### **LUNCH**

The Board broke for lunch then reconvened in a joint work session with the Tacoma-Pierce County Board of Health.

### **JOINT MEETING OF THE WASHINGTON STATE & TACOMA-PIERCE COUNTY BOARDS OF HEALTH**

#### **WELCOME FROM TACOMA-PIERCE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**

Kevin Phelps, Chair, Tacoma-Pierce County Board of Health (TCBOH), welcomed the State Board of Health, Dr. Cruz-Uribe, and staff from Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department. TPCBOH Board Member Lyle Quasim provided an update on legislative activity that could affect the indoor smoking ban in Pierce County. Chair Phelps indicated that data supporting an indoor smoking ban are overwhelming. In California, after implementation they found that smoking rates, disease rates, and unnecessary use of health care services all decreased. Of the emails received by the County Board of Health, four to one supported the ban.

Dr. Cruz-Uribe, Public Health Director, Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department, publicly recognized the Tacoma-Pierce County Board of Health for its focus on the core public health functions. He called particular attention to their leadership on the fluoride issue and support for the health department's shift from direct service provision to prevention and assurance. He then introduced Rick Porso, Public Health Manager, Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department, who gave a presentation on the weekly PULSE public health television program. PULSE has been a huge success and was developed in partnership with Bates Technical College and Franciscan Health.

WSBOH Member Mel Tonasket asked Dr. Cruz-Uribe about the affect on clients when direct services were no longer provided by the Health Department. Dr. Cruz-Uribe explained that careful capacity planning had occurred before the changes were introduced and that community health care providers were able to respond to clients needs. Dr. Hayes congratulated the Tacoma-Pierce Health Department for taking the Public Health Improvement Plan (as recommended by the Institute of Medicine) forward. She indicated that the department had been able to build exceptionally good relations with community care providers. Chair Phelps acknowledged the appreciation expressed and indicated that concern for citizens drives all TPCBOH decisions.

#### **HEALTH DISPARITIES AND HEALTH WORKFORCE DIVERSITY**

WSBOH Member Vickie Ybarra introduced the Health Disparities and Health Workforce Diversity agenda item (see the memo and other materials behind Tab 13). She noted that disparities exist and that populations affected by these disparities are growing quickly. She also acknowledged that there is good work going on around the State. She pointed out that a growing body of research indicates that a diversified workforce can help address health disparities.

Hakeem Shakoor, Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department, gave a presentation on the Health Occupations Promotion Program at Tacoma/Pierce County Health Department. This program allows a diverse group of 18 high school students to explore public health career opportunities.

He gave some examples of how the program has made a difference in the students' lives. He stressed that minority students need to be drawn into science and math courses.

Joane Mocerì, Allied Health Programs Director, Pierce College-Clover Park Nursing Collaboration, gave a presentation on some innovative admission criteria used at Pierce College Clover Park to increase access to nursing education for capable students and to increase the diversity of students in their nursing program (see Tab 13 for details on the selection criteria).

Monet Craton, Healthcare Program Coordinator, Pierce County Health Services Careers Council, gave a presentation on health care occupation workshops they have conducted and a federal grant they have received from the Health Resources and Services Administration. (More information on the grant and her contact information can be found under Tab 13.)

Kim Moore, Health Workforce Diversity Network Staff, explained the background and goals of the Health Workforce Diversity Network. (See Tab 13 for more details of her summary.) Marianne Seifert, WSBOH Staff, directed the group's attention to Senate Concurrent Resolution 8419 (see Tab 13). She also directed attention to a Survey Summary and Survey Report evaluating SBOH and Health Workforce Diversity Network efforts to improve health workforce diversity. (See Tab 13 to view the two documents.) Ms. Ybarra thanked all the members of the network and indicated that Kim Moore had been instrumental in making its achievements possible. She also acknowledged contributions of network chairs Judy Huntington (Washington State Nurses Association) and Charles Weatherby (Washington State Medical Association). Ms. Ybarra also thanked the Health Care Personnel Shortage Task Force for its work.

Dr. Nancy Anderson, MAA, representing the Health Agency Medical Directors, gave a presentation on "Quality Healthcare for All: How can state agencies help?" (See Tab 13 for a copy of her presentation and a Workshop Summary on Addressing Health Disparities). Mr. Quasim and Dr. Hayes thanked Dr. Anderson for her work. Dr. Hayes pointed out that there is a big cost to not addressing disparities. She called attention to two examples of poorer medical outcomes and higher medical costs. Chair Lake indicated that this is an issue the Board must work on for a long time. Dr. Hayes acknowledged Senator Rosa Franklin for her role in moving this issue forward in the legislature.

Becky Johnson, Executive Director, American Indian Health Commission, gave a report on the American Indian Health Commission for Washington State. She indicated that there are 112,006 American Indians (AI) and Alaskan Natives (AN) in our state. Her presentation provided statistics on the population and health disparities, and also covered workforce issues, initiatives, and recommendations (see Tab 13 for more detail). Mr. Tonasket commented on the Indian Health Services (IHS). He pointed out that only 50 percent of AI/AN people live on reservations and so have access to IHS. He added that IHS is the payer of last resort; to qualify, clients must first apply for Medicaid and be denied service. Ms. Johnson added that IHS is grossly under funded. Mr. Tonasket agreed, and gave an example of clinic buildings being inadequate and poorly maintained because of lack of funds.

Ms. Ybarra, who served as a member of the Institute of Medicine Committee on Institutional and Policy Strategies for Increasing Diversity of the Healthcare Workforce Member called attention to the committee report and provided a brief summary of activities funded by the Kellogg Foundation. Dr. Hayes asked about the dissemination plan. Ms. Ybarra indicated that there is a plan and that it might be possible to get a speaker to come to Washington State. Mr. Osaki asked if public health had been included. Ms. Ybarra said no, only medicine, dentistry, nursing, and psychiatry. Dr. Hayes commented that it might be time to acknowledge that there is racism in public health. She pointed out that in the '60s child abuse was named and then became an issue people could address. Racism in public health also needs to be given the same attention. She challenged the Board to invite inquiry—and acknowledge that this issue is about health equity.

#### **WARREN FEATHERSTONE REID AWARD UPDATE**

Mr. McLaughlin reviewed the procedures for selecting nominees for the Warren Featherstone Reid Award and described the process that led the nominations committee to recommend that the Board forward two nominations—Ellen Jeffcott as an individual nominee and Inland Northwest Health Services and a facility nominee (see materials behind Tab 14).

*Motion: The Board accepts the recommendation of the nomination review committee and will transmit the applications of both Ellen Jeffcott and Inland Northwest Health Services to the secretary of health for further consideration.*

*Motion/Second: Crump/Lake*

*Approved unanimously*

**RECOGNITION OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF DON SLOMA TO THE  
WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH**

Chair Lake recognized Don Sloma for his service to the State of Washington and the Board. She presented him with a certificate from Governor Locke and a clock that was a gift from the Board.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Lake adjourned the meeting at 4:25 p.m.

**WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH**

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Linda Lake, Chair